

ABSTRACT:

The invention relates to a gas discharge source, in particular for generating extreme ultraviolet and/or soft X-radiation, in which a gas-filled intermediate electrode space (3) is located between two electrodes (1, 2), in which devices for the admission and evacuation of gas are present, and in which one electrode (1) exhibits an opening (5) that defines an axis of symmetry (4) and is provided for the discharge of radiation. The proposed improvements constitute the presence of a diaphragm (6), which exhibits at least one opening (7) on the axis of symmetry (4) and operates as a differential pump stage, between the two electrodes (1, 2).

10 Fig. 2